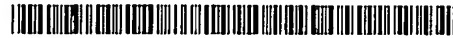


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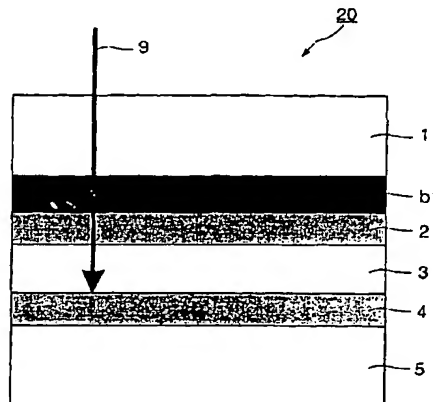
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(54) Title: OPTICAL DATA STORAGE MEDIUM



(57) Abstract: An optical data storage medium (20) for recording by means of a focused radiation beam (9) is described. The beam enters the medium through a first plastic/resinous layer (1) which is transparent for the radiation beam (9). The medium further comprises at least a first recording stack (2), comprising a first recording layer, being present proximate the first plastic/resinous layer, and a second recording stack (4), comprising a second recording layer, said second recording stack (4) being present at a position more remote from the first plastic/resinous layer (1) than the first recording stack (2), and a transparent spacer layer (3) between the first and the second recording stack having a thickness larger than the depth of focus of the focused radiation beam. A first optically transparent thermal barrier layer (b1) is interposed between the first recording stack (2) and the first plastic/resinous layer (1) by which it is achieved that the medium does not or hardly suffer from stress birefringence in the first plastic/resinous layer (1) caused by the radiation beam. A double sided version of the medium includes a third and fourth recording stack and a second optically transparent thermal barrier layer.

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